

INDORSE STILLINGS PLAN OF FRIENDS IN PRINTERS' UNION

Resolutions Will Be Introduced at Meeting of Columbia Union.

An organized effort will be made this afternoon at the regular meeting of Columbia Typographical Union to force through resolutions indorsing Public Printer Charles A. Stillings.

The movement has strong backing among the employees in the big shop who are members of Columbia Union. It is said to be engineered by some of the strongest members of the organization. It is said that this plan has been under consideration for some time, but has been guarded with the greatest secrecy.

The promoters of the indorsement idea will, it is believed, quietly marshal their forces, and have every pledged vote in the hall when the resolutions are introduced. Several of the leaders who are good speakers will defend the resolutions.

The proposition is certain to meet lively opposition, but the friends of the resolutions believe that they have enough votes at their command to win by a good majority.

In the event that the weather is bad the attendance may be small, but weather conditions will in no way affect the attendance of the friends of the resolutions—every man will be there to support them.

Columbia Union, largely made up of printers employed in the Government Printing Office, has been an opponent of Mr. Stillings and his policies in the conduct of the big Government plant ever since he antagonized organized labor there by the adoption of reforms and economic measures that threw many out of employment. Other labor organizations whose members are engaged in the Government Printing Office have charged that Mr. Stillings is opposed to organized labor, and has adopted a carefully studied policy to break them up. The bookbinders, pressmen, and others have maintained this position, and the Central Labor Union and the Trades Unionist, its official organ, hold to that opinion.

During the last few months Public Printer Stillings has promoted to lucrative positions a number of the members of Columbia, No. 101, re-employed many of the old men who had not worked at the office for some time, and has put on many new union printers to take care of the work of Congress.

It is said that the movement to have Columbia indorse Mr. Stillings' policies is being engineered by the men who have received these places, added by the old employees who have been reinstated. The purpose of the indorsement is to discredit the movement of organized labor to have Congress investigate Mr. Stillings' administration.

Christmas Gift Buyers Crowd Shops, Unafraid Of Financial Bugaboo

Christmas is in the air. It throws a greeting to one from the street corners and the shops are a maze of holiday gifts, provided by a generous Santa Claus for young and old alike.

Each year the word goes round that the old significance of Christmas is dying out, but as sure as the sun shines, the sentiment crops out again when Father Time puts his finger on the first of December, and every heart throbs in response to the Yuletide spirit, and all humanity is set going once more.

Panic Goblin Is Ignored.

In spite of the fact that the newspapers of the country are filled with columns telling of the financial stringency and the effects it promises to have upon the nation, people are going ahead spending their money, making every preparation for the coming holiday season, and snapping their fingers in the face of fate.

There may be an impending financial trouble, but no one has any idea of having his Christmas spoiled by dwelling on the prospect.

Yesterday was about as slushy and disagreeable a day as one could hope to find in a year's search, but it had no effect upon those whose minds were filled with the Christmas fever, for the shopping districts were literally crowded almost as soon as breakfast was over.

In the shops one might have taken on the idea that Christmas Eve had come all of a sudden. The aisles were congested, saleswomen rushing about in confusion, and everybody wanting to be waited on at once.

Picking a Horn for Willie.

The toy departments were not only jammed, but pandemonium reigned supreme. Over in one corner was a big man who looked as if he should have been in his office at the bank, but who was, instead, blowing all kinds of horns in an attempt to select a horn that Willie would like most, and which the youngster was most likely to content himself with, having come from the very innermost recesses of Santa Claus' own dwelling place.

Off in another corner were a happy father and mother passing away the time in the belief that they were examining mechanical toys with a view to adding another factor to baby's Christmas surprises and all the time they were having the time of their lives watching the railroad train shoot around the track, through the tunnel, and come out again past the little improvised railroad station.

Somewhere unseen a small boy, manifestly, was beating the head out of a kettle drum and another mite of hu-

manity was doing all her small hands could to ruin a toy piano. In the midst of it all was an anxious, swaying crowd, groping blindly about in an effort to find something to hang on the Christmas tree for a small member of the family or to otherwise add to the joy of the same small person.

Scramble Everywhere.

The same scene was repeated in every department of the big stores and the scramble for something to please mother or father was equally great as the one to purchase gifts for the younger generation.

The managers of every house in the shopping district said that although the Christmas rush usually began at this time, it was believed that many would put off their shopping until later because of the unsettled financial condition all over the country, but that, to their own surprise, this had apparently had no effect and they were just as busy and, if anything, more so, than in the past few years.

Out on the streets yesterday one would have thought to observe the crowd that it was a bright spring day. Hundreds and hundreds of men and women crowded P street. Early in the afternoon the theaters held large audiences and when matinee time was over the young people poured out into the streets.

It was a pretty sight to watch and one which must have brought good cheer to every heart. Whether one had money to spend made little difference. It was Christmas holiday time and the "Peace on earth, good will to men" spirit was all there.

LARGE STORES WARNED OF CHECK SWINDLERS

A general notice to Washington department stores has been sent out by Captain Carroll, chief of detectives in Newark, N. J., warning them against two thieves who have been operating in that vicinity recently.

The circular says that the two thieves are in the habit of ordering articles, and, upon finding that they are short of sufficient cash, of offering checks in payment of their purchases.

The department stores are warned from accepting any checks without first making a careful investigation to find whether they are good. The two men wanted by the police of Newark are described as being of medium height, with dark hair and smooth-shaven faces.

SAYS JOAN OF ARC WAS NOT BURNED

PARIS, Dec. 14.—The generally accepted story of Joan of Arc is impeached by d'Arcis Wrigglesworth, an English artist, who declares that he can prove the Maid of Orleans was not burned at the stake at Rouen, but that the "Duchess of Worcester" suffered in her stead.

Mr. Wrigglesworth claims to be a descendant of the Sieur d'Arcis, mayor of Rouen during the English occupation early in the fifteenth century—the period of Joan's meteoric career. Wrigglesworth further declares that treasure belonging to his family is buried under the ancient "Joan of Arc" tower in Rouen—a fact which he claims he has just discovered in some old family papers. He is now seeking permission from the French government authorities to dig for the treasure.

The remarkable statement that John was not executed by the English as described in history seems analogous with that other theory that the Dauphin (or Louis XVII) did not die in prison, but escaped and was replaced by a deaf mute.

The story of Joan's trial and execution is so complete and well authenticated that its disproof will demand a weight of testimony which is very unlikely to be unearthed after nearly five centuries.

The story of the "Duchess of Worcester" being substituted for the maid is somewhat upset by the fact that no Duchess of Worcester is known to have existed at that period.

READERS' CLUB ELECTS OFFICERS FOR YEAR

At the latest meeting of the Washington Readers' Club officers were elected as follows: President, Charles S. Richardson; vice president, Miss Grace Ross; recording secretary, Miss Bertha Frances Wolfe; corresponding secretary, Miss Hinda Burke; treasurer, Frederick Barbour.

A short speech in which plans for the coming year were mapped out, was made by the newly elected president. Afterward a social hour was enjoyed by the club members.

The president announced the standing committees as follows: Program committee, Miss Ross, Mr. Saunders, and Miss Peckin; membership committee, Mr. Barbour, Mr. Seib, and Miss Paret.

Miss Wolfe gave a report of a recent visit that the club paid to the "Men's Club," of Warner Memorial Church of Kensington, Md., as some of the club were not able to attend. The host, assisted by Mrs. Barbour and daughters, then served ices and cakes, and a social hour followed.

MRS. MARGARET KLINE HUSBAND'S BENEFICIARY

Life interest in all the real estate which Peter Kline owned at the time of his death is bequeathed his wife, Mrs. Margaret Kline, in his will which was probated yesterday. His personal property is devised to the widow and her daughter. Frederick Snyder is named as executor.

By the terms of Charles H. Reaney's will, probated yesterday, his wife, Mrs. Annie E. Reaney, named as executrix, takes his entire estate.

William Frankin Lewellen gave all of his estate to his wife, Mrs. Jane Layellen. Mrs. Lillian M. Pabcock in her will devised her property equally to her husband and daughter.

DIDN'T IMPRISON GIRL, DECLARES CAROLINIAN

RICHMOND, Va., Dec. 14.—Walter Pender, the wealthy North Carolina man, who is said to have imprisoned Miss Olga Sjostedt, a trained nurse, at his home, near Halifax, denounces the whole story, and urges an investigation by the State authorities.

ODD STREET CARS.

Street railways with cars operated by manual power are in use at Mombasa, in east Africa. The light, narrow gauge tracks are laid through the street, and the cars are for hire, like cabs, or are the private property of officials and wealthy residents. They are four-wheel cars, with one or two cross seats, and each is propelled by two natives. Spur tracks are run into private grounds, so that persons can take the cars to their own doors.

DISRUPTERS OF DOUMA BANISHED TO SIBERIA

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 14.—Ten of the social democratic members of the last Douma, whose anti-government activity indirectly led to the body's dissolution, were sent to Siberia for life today.

Eight were condemned to five years in the mines, and several others received shorter terms of exile.

MAN HURT BY FALL FROM CAR.

While attempting to mount a Metropolitan car at the corner of D street and Louisiana avenue northwest, yesterday, James Whiting fell from the steps. He was slightly hurt, but was able to proceed on his way without medical attendance.

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Ladies' Umbrellas, Union Taffeta Silk, elegant assortment in natural wood and fancy handles. Christmas price \$2.00

Fine assortment of Sterling Silver, Gold, and Pearl handles; fine quality tape edged silk. Cheap at \$5.00. Christmas price \$3.85

Beautiful line of Ladies' Umbrellas, Sterling Silver, Gold, and Pearl handles. Cannot be duplicated for less than \$7.50. Christmas price \$5.00

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